



Technology Report

February 2024

2400 MASON EAGLES DR.
 ERIE, MI 48133
 ERIEMASON.K12.MI.US

Projects:

Projects	Next Step	Next Milestone Dates
PA Bid Approval	BOE determination for approval	2/7/24
Camera Project	Order Synology Cameras / Cable Pull Walkthru	2/10/24
Dell Azure Stack HCI	Post Bid	2/14/24
MSTEP Order Prep	New headphone requirement (placing order)	2/14/24
61c Orders	Purchase Reqs/Orders	2/28/24
E-Rate 471	Review Wireless RFPs and File 471	2/28/24
Robotics Competition	Milford High School	2/29/24

Additional Project Details:

- **PA Bid Approval** – memo was prepped for BOE and reviewed with both finance director and superintendent.
- **Camera Project** – Vortex communications was contacted this week to quote the CAT6 cable pulls to install 27 additional cameras: HS – 12, CES – 13, MS – 2 based on the walkthrough with Officer Rollins. I will be purchasing Synology Cameras to take advantage of their integrated licensing model for our NVR (network video recording system). An expansion to the storage space will also take place due to the increase of cameras.
- **Dell Azure Stack HCI** – I reviewed the server architecture with both the finance director and superintendent. I will be posting a RFP bid this month to purchase within this fiscal year from technology funds.
- **MSTEP Headphones** – MSTEP has expanded the requirements of headphones during the beginning instruction of the test. MS & CES have many, but I will ensure we are completely covered and also need to build a stock for HS’s 11th grade test.
- **61c** – 61c orders will begin this month. All orders will be paid through Mason’s 61c allocation of \$44,380.00. Items include (prices may fluctuate): A/C Ductless Mini Split (already installed), NetAlly EtherScope (wifi analyzer) - \$11,499.99, SSD Drives \$4,199.88, Fusion Splicer Kit (fiber) \$7,902.30, Cables & Accessories \$1,200, ServerRoom Monitoring Solution \$2895, Video recorder \$2000, and misc.
- **E-RATE 471** – Mason’s Meraki Wireless controller expires in September 2024. The new WiFi 7 standard has recently been approved. I want to wait until the new access points are released before refreshing hardware; however, we still need to renew licensing. I filed a Form 470 RFP to





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allocate e-rate funding to the controller license renewal. The bid is currently live for the 28-day USAC posting requirement.

Building Specific:

Central Elementary School – I am closely monitoring DRC’s MSTEP requirements for iPad testing. We have plenty of Chromebooks to test, but I would like the iPads for K & 1. If an update to iOS is required, I will set aside a few days to reconfigure, otherwise they would be updated as per summer projects.

Mason Middle School – Worked with students on the digital signage at the Middle School. They are now updating the content on a weekly basis.

Mason High School – The robotics team’s first competition for this season is at Milford High School from 2/29/24 – 3/2/24.

District Information, Ed Tech, and Various:

- **Certificate Renewal** – Our wildcard certificate was renewed and placed on all servers that required the solution: phones, monitoring, print solution, helpdesk, network policy, VPN, 3 Synology devices (including Camera solution).
- **Updates** – On 1/27 I performed a minor security update on the phone system. It is now running its latest release.
- **Budget** – preliminary budget number for 2024/2025 tech fund was distributed to finance and superintendent. A review will take place on 2/6/2024. Budget adjustments were not submitted due to e-Finance reporting issue.
- **Category 1 Networking Equipment & Category 2 Firewall** – Met with technology directors at the January LMTC meeting. The networking equipment purchase will be HP Aruba for all districts using them as their ISP. The firewall is still under review. Many want to continue with the Palo Alto, but there appears to be some pressure on wanting to go with Fortinet as it is a cheaper option. They are going to re-review the features and present additional details at a later date.
- **DocLok** – Meeting scheduled for 1/29 to start bringing over vendors from e-Finance. Nicholas Hay mentioned they have successfully tested the Spec. Ed. department for the ISD.

Orders:

- **Microsoft Order** – Our yearly renewal request was approved by Microsoft and is active as of 2/1/24. I still have 2 months of Azure charges that will be the supplement cloud-based security features we added when we deployed the new laptops.
- **61a Orders** – These orders will coincide with CTE purchases (e.g. certificates vouchers have already been placed and students have logged into the training platform).

Hour Report/Tickets:

- **Ticket Standings** (as of 1/27/24): We closed 68 tickets and there are currently zero open tickets in technology. December ended with 64 closed tickets.